

CLERK: Yes.

SENATOR WARNER: All right, what this amendment does is clarifies the funding procedure for the community colleges and the effect of the amendment is that a community college would levy one mill for their cost in order to be eligible for state funds and then the state would reimburse up to the amount of the budget their cost above what they can raise from one mill. Now this makes somewhat of a change in a sense, the old law you recall was 25% not to exceed one mill. This is essentially the same thing except it would require every community college to have up to one mill and then the funding above that would come from state sources so you could operate for less than that, they would not receive any state budget but I'm sure that will not be the case with any of them. So I'd move adoption of that amendment. I don't believe this part is controversial.

SPEAKER: Is there further discussion on the amendment by Senator Warner? Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, I just wish to support the amendments now being offered by Senator Warner. This does leave the funding responsibility with the local area which has proven in the past years to be, to be good. It leaves local input as far as funding is concerned and not only that but it does provide for local input by an area board that has demonstrated a particular interest that's given some real strong backing to the concept of area community colleges. I feel it's important that we continue this way and support the suggested amendment that's in lieu of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER: Further discussion? If not, the motion is to adopt the Warner amendment in lieu of the Standing Committee amendments. All in favor say aye, opposed nay. Amendments are adopted. Further amendments on the desk? Clerk will read.

CLERK: Reads amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, Mr. Clerk, would you strike the word in lieu now because we do not need that since the committee, I did not know which order they would come up. Now this amendment is one which would require that all of the current boards regardless of the boundaries that you eventually end up with would no longer exist and that the Governor would then appoint or in some cases reappoint the members of these technical community college. The reason that the amendment is offered is two. First is the fact that we are adding some counties to some of these technical colleges which have existing boards and these areas of course were not considered when the original boards were established and there must be obviously representation from these areas or at least eligible to be from these areas or else in effect they would have taxation without having had representation. The second reason is there is disagreement whether or not this is true, but many feel very strongly that the present law which permits three ways of electing the boards for these technical community colleges has serious constitutional questions and in fact the position is that there can only be one method of electing these technical community college boards. I assume there will be an amendment offered to this to make an exception for the two community colleges now operating which is Lincoln and Omaha which their regular elementary/secondary board of education also operates a community colleges. But by and large most of those who have looked at the legal questions and in fact the law suit that is pending to a very large degree is based on this fact that there is not a single method of selecting these boards. So the reason then for the amendment is to have a single way and to insure that all areas have representation, that are not, that is counties which were not previously a part of a community college. With that explanation I would move adoption of this amendment.